

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISTANB 02436 220703Z
ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02
CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 PRS-01
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /060 W
-----031250 220706Z /21

O 220547Z JUL 77

FM AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9058

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS ISTANBUL 2436

FOR VANCE

S/PRS, PA

DEPARTMENT PASS NSC FOR DR. BRZEZINSKY

USIA FOR J. THURBER, IOP/G

WHITE HOUSE FOR MR. POWELL AND MR. SCHECTER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP

SUBJECT: SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER'S TRAVEL

FOLLOWING EXCHANGE TOOK PLACE BETWEEN SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER
AND THE DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF ISTANBUL WHO HAD COME TO THE AIR-
PORT TO WELCOME HIM.

MR. CHRISTOPHER: "I AM VERY HAPPY TO BE HERE. I HAVE NEVER
BEEN IN TURKEY BEFORE AND I AM PARTICULARLY GLAD TO BE ABLE
TO STAY AT LEAST A HALF A DAY AND SEE SOMETHING OF THE FAMOUS
CITY OF ISTANBUL."

MR. CHRISTOPHER: "I UNDERSTAND THAT MR. DEMIREL HAS PUT
TOGETHER A NEW GOVERNMENT IN THE PAST 24 HOURS OR SO.
HOW FAR HAS THE APPROVAL PROCESS GONE ALONG?"

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 ISTANB 02436 220703Z

THE DEPUTY GOVERNOR: "HE HAS FORMED HIS CABINET; HE
PRESENTED THE NAMES OF HIS MINISTERS TO THE PRESIDENT,
NOW HE WILL WORK ON THE GOVERNMENT'S PROGRAM WHICH WILL
REQUIRE A VOTE OF CONFIDENCE."

MR. CHRISTOPHER: "HOW SOON WILL YOU EXPECT A VOTE OF
CONFIDENCE TO TAKE PLACE?"

THE DEPUTY GOVERNOR: "ONE WEEK - A LITTLE MORE THAN ONE

WEEK."

MR. CHRISTOPHER: "IS IT A COMBINATION OF TWO OR THREE PARTIES THAT HE HAS ARRIVED AT?"

THE DEPUTY GOVERNOR: "THREE PARTIES."

MR. CHRISTOPHER: "WOULD THAT GIVE HIM OVER 230 VOTES, OR THEREABOUTS?"

THE DEPUTY GOVERNOR: "229".

FOLLOWING THIS EXCHANGE, MR. CHRISTOPHER ADDRESSED THE QUESTIONS OF TWO REPORTERS, REPRESENTING THE ANATOLE NEWS AGENCY AND THE (GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED) RADIO AND TELEVISION.

MR. CHRISTOPHER: "AS YOU KNOW, I WAS JUST PASSING THROUGH. I WAS IN BELGRADE TODAY WHERE I MET WITH YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND ALSO MEMBERS OF OUR DELEGATION TO THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE. I AM ON MY WAY TOMORROW TO NEW DELHI. I WISH THERE WERE TIME FOR ME TO MAKE THE TRIP TO ANKARA NAD STAY HERE LONGER. BUT THIS WILL HAVE TO AWAIT ANOTHER TRIP."

REPORTER: "WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATE OF U.S.-TURKISH RELATIONS? AND WHAT WILL BE THE IMPACT OF THE NEW DEMIREL GOVERNMENT ON THESE RELATIONS?"

MR. CHRISTOPHER: "WELL, OF COURSE, WE HAVE BEEN AWAITING THE FORMATION OF A NEW GOVERNMENT. WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE OPPORTUNITY AGAIN TO WORK WITH MR. DEMIREL AND HIS COALITION PARTNERS. WE HOPE THAT THIS NEW GOVERNMENT WILL GIVE US AN OPPORTUNITY TO CONTINUE THE RELATIONS WHICH WE HAVE HAD WITH THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT IN THE PAST AND THAT THIS WILL BE AN OPPORTUNITY TO ENHANCE OUR RELATIONS. BUT SINCE THE
UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 ISTANB 02436 220703Z

GOVERNMENT IS NOT FULLY IN OFFICE AND HAS NOT BEGUN TO TAKE OVER THE REINS OF GOVERNMENTAL POWER, I THINK IT WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR ME TO SAY ANYTHING FURTHER."

REPORTER: "ARE THERE ANY NEW DEVELOPMENTS ON THE ARMS EMBARGO?"

MR. CHRISTOPHER: "I HAVE BEEN OUT OF WASHINGTON FOR ABOUT THREE DAYS NOW AND SO I THINK IT WOULD BE UNWISE OR INAPPROPRIATE FOR ME TO COMMENT ON THIS SUBJECT I AM SORRY NOT TO BE MORE HELPFUL BUT I THINK IT BEST IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT I HAVE BEEN OUT OF TOUCH FOR THREE DAYS THAT I DO NOT COMMENT."

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